



Cheveley Scrapbook 1897 to 1990

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies
reported in Cambridge Newspapers

summarised by

Mike Petty

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Most of these stories originally appeared in the Cambridge Daily/Evening/News or the
Cambridgeshire Weekly News, its sister title.

They are supplemented by some articles published in the
Cambridge Independent Press or Cambridge Chronicle

Most were featured in my 'Looking Back' column in the Cambridge News from 1996-2014

The complete 'Cambridgeshire Scrapbook' of which this is a small section is published online at
[bit.ly/CambsCollection](https://archive.org/search.php?query=creator%3A%22Mike%20Petty%22)

<https://archive.org/search.php?query=creator%3A%22Mike%20Petty%22>

I have digital and other copies of most of the stories summarised.
I hope to publish these online one day. If you would like them in the meantime then please get in
touch.

The original volumes are housed in the Cambridgeshire Collection at Cambridge Central Library
where there are many other indexes dating back to 1770.

They also have detailed newspaper cuttings files on over 750 topics that have been compiled since the
1960s.

Newspapers sometimes get things wrong. I copy things out incorrectly. Do check

There are a multitude of spelling and layout errors. Please forgive or correct them

News never stops but this file was finished on 31 August 2016.

I will maintain supplements and corrections – contact me for anything you need

Please make what use of these notes that you may. Kindly remember where they came from

See my website – www.mikepetty.org.uk for further notes.

Mike Petty, Stretham

2018

1898 04 25

The third meeting of the Eastern District Tactical Society was held at Newmarket and orders issued for an exercise in the open country. The general idea was that a Western army was advancing from Cambridge with the object of driving an Eastern army out of Bury St Edmunds. This gave commanders of regiments some useful experience in the organisation of columns of march, some of the troops being supposed to be located at Cambridge, and others around Newmarket. On Thursday the central position was Cheveley, and the outpost were formed along the line, Limekilns, Cheveley, Kirtling. The members of the Society were engaged in working out the dispositions, and the exercises concluded with some general remarks on the action supposed to follow

1898 08 10

Newmarket Road district council were told that at Cheveley a well which had been cleaned out and deepened, now yielded as good a supply of water as could be found. They should consider the desirability of employing an experienced well sinker who could clean out and deepen many of the wells in the neighbouring parishes. A good water supply might be obtained in that way without the expense of digging and sinking artificial wells.

1898 08 17

Cheveley water, p4

1900 04 04

The following appointments of parish constables were made: Burwell, H. Martin; Brinkley, F. Geo. Howard; Cheveley, J. Nicholls; Chippenham, A. Duffield; Dullingham, J. Smith; Fordham G.R. Godfrey; Isleham, J. Dilley; Soham H. Rouse; Wicken, W. Barton; Wood Ditton J.J. Howe & C. Cates.

1900 09 27

At Newmarket Licensing Session an application was made for a licence for a new hotel which it was proposed to erect in close contiguity to the new station. When last the application was made the justices took objection to the plans which now provided for 14 bedrooms instead of eight. It would be in the Georgian style, similar to Colonel McCalmont's house at Cheveley Park. Mr Banks-Ashton said they had what on paper looked like a very fine building, but justices would remember that the same company put in plans for the Warren Hill Hotel, which also looked fine on paper, but they did not keep to those plans after a licence had been granted

1902 11 03

The King was driven to Cheveley Park for a day's shooting with Colonel McCalmont. On reaching the park gates a number of children who had assembled cheered. No unauthorised person was admitted by the constables on duty at the gates to enter the park. Lunch was served to the party at the house of Mr Tufts, the head keeper. The total bag was 2,159 of which 1,876 were pheasants. It was expected that the bag would have been far larger. The king planted a young South African tree in Cheveley Park in commemoration of his visit.

1902 12 08

Col Harry Leslie Blundell McCalmont, M.P. for the Newmarket Division of Cambridgeshire since 1895 died suddenly at his London residence. He served in South Africa and received an injury to the head through which he was invalided home, receiving on his arrival at Newmarket a remarkable reception from his constituents. He was a well-known owner of racehorses & his racing stud is housed at Cheveley Park. It was his custom to distribute thousands of head of game throughout the country and was especially mindful of his poorer neighbours. There were many claims upon his large fortune and he did much for the County Cricket Club which will be one of the greater losers by his death.

1903 02 23

For some months Cheveley parish church has been in the hands of the builders who have just completed their task of thoroughly renovating the sacred edifice. Nearly the whole of the roof has been renewed, an entirely new system of heating carried out and the seats have been re-arranged.

Wooden blocks have been substituted for the original flooring and red tiles laid along the aisles. A new vestry has been added and the organ rebuilt. The whole has been carried out at the expense of the late Col Harry McCalmont, who took a deep interest in the welfare of the parish. At the time of his death the building was not in a fit state to be used for public worship and there was something pathetic in the fact that his generosity prevented his funeral being held in the church.

1908 09 04

See the children assemble in the great hall at the new Milton Road School. From the classrooms come files of boys and girls, not in perfect military style but in very fair order awaiting an instruction that playtime has arrived. The word given, the boys swing out of one door, the girls out at another and the paved playgrounds, separated by an iron partition, resound with merriment. Boys learn woodwork under Mr Holt and the girls commence cookery instruction under Mrs Walker of Cheveley. CWN 08 09 04 p5

1908 11 20

Following a complaint that water could not be got from the pump between the Red Lion and the allotments at Cheveley, Mr Graystone went to investigate. The source of supply was a field fifty yards away where he found an offensive-looking pond. The water was an inky colour and covered with green duckweed. It looked altogether horrible. There were lots of rats living in the pond. But the water was not meant for drinking; it was just for slopping purposes and there should be a notice to that effect. There had never been a case of typhoid arising from it. CWN 08 11 20

1910

1913 01 31

Band of Hope Union annual meeting heard that David Moore ('Uncle David') had given 78 addresses and 75 lantern lectures which had been attended by 5,198 adults and 10,865 children. The lantern shows had been very popular and were an excellent method for giving effective teaching in a pleasant way. Numerous visits had been paid to villages and Wood Ditton, Cheveley, Dulling and Soham Fen had joined the Union. Numerous pledges to abstain from drinking had been given. 13 01 31 p9

1913 04 04

The Congregational Union heard that West Wrattling chapel had been renovated and a new hall built at Cheveley but the chapel at Reach, built in 1863, needed to be put in repair before it celebrated its jubilee. At Castle Camps the work was becoming increasingly difficult though the pastor has not lost heart after 24 years in the ministry. Chrishall congregations are steadily strengthening, Gt Eversden had celebrated the wedding of the minister and young people continued to meet at the Nixon Hall. The most difficult station was Stetchworth where the spiritual indifference of the people was a great obstacle to progress

1914 07 03

Mr Ablewhite described a visit to a shelter provided by the Insurance Committee for a consumptive patient at Cheveley. He had expected to find a fine building, well provided with medical officers, nurses and equipment, instead of which he found a small wooden building, only capable of holding a bed and a chair, set up in the backyard of a cottage. But such shelters in cottage gardens are giving excellent results and consumption is cured by fresh air and food, not by bricks and mortar. 14 07 03

1914 10 30

Belgians – Waterbeach not help, Soham arrivals, Burwell, Bourn, Cottenham, Duxford, Gamlingay, Gt Eversden, Histon, Linton, Over, Sawston, Swavesey, Chatteris, Cheveley

1914 11 06

Belgians, Cheveley

1914 11 13

Belgian refugees – Carlton, Waterbeach, Bassingbourn, Sawston, Willingham, Horningsea, Elsworth, Fowlmere, Ickleton, Cheveley

1914 12 04

Cheveley water hydrant

1915 03 12

Rabbits. The warrener employed upon the Duke of Rutland's Cheveley estate for the last few weeks has succeeded in killing between 2,000 and 3,000 rabbits. Last year about the same number were destroyed. 15 03 12

1915 07 16 CIP

With the Colours. Free Lance, referring to a letter from Mr. C. K. V. Adeane, Chairman of the County Territorial Association, giving figures relating to local recruitment to the forces, says: "We get an approximate estimate of 11,000 Cambridgeshire men serving with the colours, viz, 8,197 from the County and Isle and 2,777 from the Borough. A glance at the table (quoted in the letter) shows how many parts which have not nearly come up to scratch, and where there must be hundreds of men still content to remain at home when they should be taking their places beside their fellow countrymen on the training ground or in the trenches. The parish figuring best in the percentage column is Madingley, which, with 20 out of 83, comes out with 22.4 and Girton, Pampisford, Sawston and Cheveley, all top the 21 per cent, but of these I think Sawston shows up to the best advantage, having sent 166 out of a total male population of 789. Out of a total of 18, Shingay can boast four with the colours, which gives the place a percentage of 22.2. Barton and Conington are other villages to have done exceedingly well. Ely can boast of having sent the largest actual number, 753 having gone out of a male population of 3,909, which gives the excellent percentage for a place of this size of 19.2 15 07 16

1918 11 20

Cheveley Church Terrace cottages fire – 18 11 20c

1920

1920 01 07 CIP

Rats Killed, Up to December 3rd last the number of rats killed in the county and paid for by Cambs County Council under the Rats Order, was 35,516. The districts concerned were: Little Abington (number of rats killed 504), Ashley (980), Balsham (2,718), Borough Green (358), Bottisham (999), Cheveley (631), Chippenham (838), Great Chishill (322), Croxton (225), Dullingham (1,205), Duxford (754), Elsworth (39), Fordham (8,072), Fowlmere (489), Harston (322), Hauxton (186), Heydon (1,593), Hildersham (236), Horseheath (324), Ickleton (1,095), Isleham (3,809), Kennett (1,422), Kirtling (396), Kneesworth (549), Linton (584), Lode (548), Melbourn (442), Newton (160), Pampisford (429), Sawston (332), Shepreth (313), Shudy Camps (1.38), Snailwell (786), Soham (2,896), Stetchworth (1,105), Swaffham Prior (1,032), Thriplow (464), Waterbeach (967), West Wickham (995), Whittlesford (324), Great Wilbraham (846), Wood Ditton (2,017).

1922 08 02

Cheveley church memorial, p3

1924 07 11

Within the space of a quarter of an hour three casualties were admitted to Addenbrooke's Hospital last night. The first was Mr Sidney Fuller of the Toll House, Beck Row. He was loading a truck on a light railway when it tipped and fell on him. While at the Conservative fete at Madingley Mrs Eliza Armitage slipped and broke her right leg and Jack Everitt of Cheveley Hall (3) was conveyed for treatment of a broken leg sustained by falling on a heap of stones

1927 03 10

Cheveley, Dullingham water, p6

1930

1933 01 04

Cheveley Park road, p8*

1935 08 19

Two semi-detached cottages were completely destroyed by fire at Kirtling. The occupants, Edward Levell and George Potter, an engine driver employed at Cheveley, escaped without injury. Smoke was first seen rising from the thatched roof. It came from a smouldering beam and was extinguished but later the whole of the thatch suddenly blazed up. Furniture in the downstairs room was hurriedly dragged out and before the Newmarket rural fire brigade had time to arrive the two cottages were blazing fiercely. The nearest supply of water was a pond too muddy for use and the other source was half a mile away. 35 08 19a

1936 03 26

Sewage schemes Cheveley Park, Soham, Burwell water, Swaffham Bulbeck ditches and Brinkley smells 36 03 26a

1937 07 16

Newmarket RDC wanted to continue the clearance of unfit dwellings. The first tenants had been satisfactorily rehoused in decent homes, most being eager to take possession of new cottages. At Ashley three dwellings near the Plough Inn were damp and dilapidated; the owner had to bear the cost of clearing them without compensation but she would still own the land. At Cheveley the owner complained that a property had been inspected after phenomenal rain when water from the pond had swamped it, undermining the end wall. At Stetchworth three dwellings at the rear of the 'Live and Let Live' were damp and insanitary, an inspector was told. 37 07 16c & d

1938 06 23

Cheveley Park estate consists of 176 houses including those in course of erection along Duchess Drive, Centre Drive and Ashley Road, each being drained to a cesspool. There must be some limit to the number that can dispose of their sewage in that haphazard manner. The estate was so near Newmarket it would seem easy to solve the problem by draining into the Council's sewers. But they were too small, the Medical Officer reported 38 06 23

1939 09 27

Blackout offences - Soham fish shop, Cheveley & Burwell houses – 39 09 27a, b

1941 04 18 CIPof

London Comes to Cheveley. "The Rectory in the village of Cheveley (Cambs.) must be among the handsomest property now used by Friends." So states a note (says Watchman) in a recent "News" sheet issue by the Society of Friends' War Victims' Relief Committee, which announces that towards the close of last month this rectory was occupied by mothers and children from Stepney and Limehouse. These folk were selected from East End shelters in which the Friends work. Most of the women had been to the country before — they returned because they could not stand living in other people's houses and the separation from their London friends. And they have come to Cheveley because they had been allowed to take some of their own essential furniture with them and live in a community of their London neighbours. To help them to make up their minds about coming, a film of Cheveley was made and shown in the shelters—which strikes me as being extremely accommodating, to say the least. "The scheme," says the 'News' note "would never have come into operation without the advice, help and encouragement of a Cheveley resident. Mrs Morriss, whose horse won the Derby a few years ago." There is, I believe, a similar 'Friends' centre at Wood Ditton for bombed-out people.

1945 04 06

Freed,—One of the first members, of the Cambridgeshire Regiment to be freed from the Japanese Sergeant Tweed whose parents live at Cheveley, is on his way home. This news was given at a meeting of the Newmarket Prisoner of War Relatives' Association on Tuesday.

1945 08 17

Combined Parade. — Cambridge was well presented on Sunday at Bury St Edmunds when 1,500 troops of the Suffolk Regt., the Beds, and Herts. Regt., the A.T.S., and the General Service Corps, together with members of the 4th Cadet Batt., Suffolk Regt. took part in a combined parade. The occasion was the commemoration of Minden Day and Blenheim Day. At the Battle of Minden on August 1, 1759, the 12th Foot (the Suffolk Regt.) picked roses as they pursued the retreating French, while the Battle of Blenheim — August 13, 1704—is one of the battle honours of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment. There were several old veterans on parade among them being Lieut. Mr. William Taylor, of Cheveley, near Newmarket, who is 80 years old, and who holds the Hazara. In command of the parade was Lieut-Col. G. A. Anstee, M.C., commanding No. 3 Infantry Training Centre, and as they were brought on parade, the colours of both regiments, those of the Suffolk Regiment being the oldest in the British Army, were received with the royal salute, for which the bands of both regiments played. The service was conducted by the Archdeacon, of Sudbury, the Ven. H. R. Norton, formerly Assistant, Chaplain General Eastern Command, and the Rev. J O. V Hogarth, Chaplain to No 3 I.T.C., and the lessons were read by Col Nicholson and Brigadier Foss. Afterwards, there was the impressive ceremony of trooping the colours of the Suffolk Regiment, and the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment which were then formed up for the troops, cadets and old soldiers to march past. The ceremony, which took place at Gibraltar Barracks, was watched by a large gathering of townspeople.

1950

1950 03 03

Since fire service tenders have been maintaining a supply of water to five Cambridgeshire villages after a break-down at one of Newmarket RDC's pumping stations. It was found that only 4,500 gallons were available at the station which has a normal output of 30,000 gallons per day. The fire service instituted a shuttle service between the pumping station and a hydrant in Newmarket. The villages affected are Ashley, Cheveley, Wood Ditton, Kirtling and Saxon Street. The council has just received approval for at £82,000 water scheme which they have been pressing for some time

1952 12 17

Cheveley rates, p4

1953 03 27

For over 50 years James Bird has served beer over the same bar at the Star and Garter, Cheveley, a pub which goes back well over 200 years. He took over in August 1901, his wife having lived there since 1886 - her grandparents (Mr & Mrs Beale) then kept the pub. In 1910 he wrote to the village Coronation Celebrations Committee offering to cater for 400 adults at 2s. a head, for which price there was roast beef, mutton, pickles and beer. "I suppose we have known just about everybody in the village and can look back on many good times", he said, recalling lavish shooting lunches & early mornings when hot coffee and rum was served to the waggoners.

1954 10 06

The Minister of Education has refused to allow funding for a new school for Milton, but one new classroom will be built. There will also be building at Babraham, Histon and Cheveley while Harston is growing fast and a pre-fabricated classroom would be constructed. The position at Kennett shows how quickly a development plan was out-dated. The roll at this single-roomed school has risen from 14 to 27 and would continue to increase. Negotiations would start to purchase the premises now held on lease and plans for an extension prepared.

1955 11 18

Cheveley Park water supply, warning – 55 11 18

1957 04 13

Great St Mary's church has a new mace which depicts the Virgin Mary resting on the arms of the University. It was made by Loughborough Pendred, the Cambridge woodcarver and magnificently gilded and decorated by Mr B. Winterton. There are other examples of Mr Pendred's work in Stretham, Teversham, Sawston, Cheveley and Great Shelford churches. 57 04 13

1959 03 06

Rutland House, Saxon Street was struck by lightning. Mr Chapman, a representative of Messrs Baldreys, had called at the Reindeer public house to collect an order when he saw 'a terrific flash' and noticed smoke coming from the roof. He informed one of the staff at the house but the telephone had been put out of order so he drove to Cheveley where he found a policeman on motor-cycle patrol. Mr & Mrs Cooper Bland were at home and heard a bang but did not realise their home had been struck until they went outside. 59 03 06

1959 08 14

The Rev Mrs Grace Adams, Congregational Minister to the Cheveley Group, say she has always met with kindness and the men have been most gallant and trusting. Women are given full rights in the Congregational church and they exchange preachers with other denominations. Last year she preached at the Newmarket Anglican Church on the Women's Day of Prayer. She is an encouragement for more members of the sex to follow her example. 59 08 14

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1961 09 08

Throughout the year the CIP carried a series of feature articles relating to Cambridgeshire villages. They include Cheveley – 61 09 08 & a CIP

1962 06 01

From being almost a novelty, the steam engine has come to be regarded with sentimental veneration, receiving the same loving care and attention as vintage motor cars. The Pumfrey family of Duxford have owned a Ruston and Proctor seven n.h.p. engine since it was bought new in 1914 while Mr H. Nicholls of Cheveley has preserved a 1902 single crank compound Burrell which was used for estate work at Fordham Abbey. The Taylor brothers of Wimbish, who have a reputation for being assiduous collectors, displayed the formidable Fowler 18 n.h.p. double crank compound ploughing machine built in 1918 and still occasionally used for ploughing and mole draining 62 06 01a

1965 01 25

Cheveley memories of Winston Churchill – spent holidays there – 65 01 25b

1965 02 12

Cheveley photo feature – 65 02 12b

1970

1973 12 27

Cheveley plan, p12

1975 02 06

The Cambridge area property market offers a broad range of housing at the moment. It ranges from Ridley Hall to a tiny disused telephone exchange at Bottisham. Other exchanges at Cheveley and

Steeple Morden are also on the market as STD spreads through the Cambridge telephone area. Some of them have possibilities as bijou cottage residences but buyers have to go on the waiting list for a telephone

1976 07 22

Apathetic villagers in Burwell and Cheveley have caused East Cambridgeshire District Council to hold a fourth round of parish council elections in an attempt to fill two vacant seats. Both councils have had their membership increase because of additional population. Three poll attempts have failed to stir villagers' interest. The clerk of Cheveley council said people were apathetic – but they moaned when things weren't done. The chairman of Burwell council said: "I think it is disgusting; I know people who are willing to stand but can't be bothered to get the forms – and you can't nurse them"

1978 06 12

About 800 of the country's small rural schools have vanished in the past 10 years. Financially county councils claim there are not viable. But in Cambridgeshire four small villages have had a scheme approved which they hope will save their schools. Ashley, Cheveley, Wood Ditton and Kirtling have formed a Schools Federation, creating one school from four, but without the loss of any. Each will be maintained under one administration, rather than four, cutting costs and increasing the scope for improved facilities and a broader education. There will be one headmaster and six assistant teachers and a larger range of reading books which will float between the schools.

1987 01 27

The landlord and his family were left homeless after fire gutted their pub at Cheveley. The blaze broke out in the bar and ripped through the rest of the Star and Garter, causing part of the roof to collapse. It is thought that the fire could have been caused by a smouldering cigarette. Their daughter was in the village school opposite when she saw smoke and flames pouring from the 19th-century hostelry which is owned by the Ipswich-based Tolly Cobbold brewery 87 01 27